



# GOODERHAM & WORTS **EX18.7.10** NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

26 October, 2016

Honorable Mayor and Committee Members,

**RE: EX18.7 Expo 2025 – Feasibility Considerations**

The Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association represents residents of the Distillery District. Our community is the one most affected by development on the port lands. As we said in a letter to you last May, we fully support the proposal for Toronto to submit a bid to host World Expo 2025 in our city.

We had the opportunity to witness firsthand the positive transformative effect that “Mega” events can have on the City as the site for the Pan Am/Parapan Am Athlete’s Village is on our doorstep. A project with a deadline expedited the flood protection and rehabilitation of what was formerly ugly abandoned industrial sites into a vibrant emerging neighbourhood complete with community facilities and park land.

The feasibility study before us shows the enormous benefits an Expo could bring to the city and the region and how wide is the support for Toronto's entering a bid. The staff report expresses justified concern over the number of public projects that would have to be expedited to make an expo possible. But these are all works that have to be done sooner or later and, as West Don Lands development has shown, sooner is better than later. Years of necessary infrastructure investment and thousands of jobs are worth going ahead with in any circumstances. In this case all the potential payoffs from hosting a world expo would be on top of the payoffs from completing necessary and fundamental infrastructure projects.

Our association members urge you to read the feasibility study carefully and ask yourselves if this is an opportunity we want to turn down. Of course, support and commitments from other levels of Government will be required for a successful bid – but Toronto must have the guts to take the first step and look like a leader.

Our community will continue to encourage our Provincial and Federal representatives to support an Expo 2025 bid. We ask that you not throw away the hard work already done towards a bid, but rather work with the other levels of government and the private sector to secure the agreements and funding needed through the bid process.

Respectfully,

Michael Brewer  
Vice President, External  
Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association (GWNA) Inc.



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